

**In the claims:**

For the Examiner's convenience, all pending claims are presented below with changes shown in accordance with the new mandatory amendment format.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:  
a card rack;  
two or more server node cards, each server node card can perform server functions with  
integrated switch and router functions including load balancing and fail-over; and  
a plurality of ports coupled with the two or more server node cards.
2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein [[a]] the server node card  
comprises a single printed circuit board.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, where the plurality of ports comprises four  
ports.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the printed circuit board is rack  
mountable and the plurality of ports are accessible as connection points on the card rack.
5. (Original) A server block comprising:  
a plurality of server nodes, each server node comprising a server with integrated  
switching, routing, load balancing and fail-over functions and a plurality of ports,  
at least one port of the plurality of ports configured for connection to an external  
network; and

a plurality of signal paths connected with the plurality of ports of the server nodes of the plurality of server nodes, at least two of the plurality of ports of each server node of the plurality of server nodes connected with another server node of the plurality of server nodes in the server block.

6. (Previously Presented) The server block of claim 5, wherein each said server node of the plurality of server nodes comprises one printed circuit board.

7. (Previously Presented) The server block of claim 6, wherein the printed circuit board is rack mountable and the plurality of ports of each server node of the plurality of server nodes are accessible as connection points on the card rack and the server block is constructed in one card rack by interconnecting the connection points on the card rack.

8. (Previously Presented) The server block of claim 7, wherein the external connections of the server block are provided through an interface card in the card rack, the interface card being connected to the plurality of server nodes through connection points on the card rack.

9. (Previously Presented) A computer network comprising:  
a plurality of server blocks wherein each server block comprises:

a plurality of server nodes, each server node comprising a server with integrated switching, routing, load balancing and fail-over functions and a plurality of ports, and

a plurality of signal paths connected with the plurality of ports of each server node of the plurality of server nodes, at least one signal path connected with each server node of the plurality of server nodes providing an external connection to a server block, and at least two signal paths of the plurality of signal paths connected with each server node of the plurality of server nodes being connected with other server nodes of the plurality of server nodes in the block; and

a plurality of signal paths connected with the server blocks, at least one signal path connected with each server block of the plurality of server blocks providing an external connection to the network, and at least two signal paths of the plurality of signal paths connected with each server block of the plurality of server blocks being connected with other server blocks of the plurality of server blocks.

10. (Previously Presented)        The computer network of claim 9, wherein each server node of the plurality of server nodes comprises one printed circuit board.

11. (Previously Presented)        The computer network of claim 10, wherein the printed circuit board is rack mountable and the plurality of ports of each server node of the plurality of server nodes are accessible as connection points on the card rack and a server block is constructed in one card rack by interconnecting the connection points on the card rack.

12. (Previously Presented)        The computer network of claim 11, wherein the external connections of the plurality of server blocks are provided through an interface card in the card rack, the interface card being connected to the plurality server nodes through connection points on the card rack.

13-20. (Cancelled)